

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
722 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

November 1, 1972
(by telephone)

Memorandum of Conversation

David Lenevsky, U.S. Association for the U.N.
Jack Perry, CEQ

David and Elmore Jackson had lunch yesterday with Ananichev of the Soviet State Committee on Science and Technology. Points of interest:

1. State Committee (SCST) and the Environmental Agreement. David asked why the SCST was so little in evidence during the Train-Fedorov talks in Moscow. After a chat on the subject, Ananichev seemed to be saying: (a) The SCST negotiated the Agreement, but it was not appropriate for Kirillin to be Chairman, both because of the level, and because regular line agencies should implement the environmental Agreement; (b) but as the Train reception by Kirillin showed, the SCST still maintained an overall supervisory role. (I don't know how much of this is gospel and how much is an apologia for the SCST not being very active now in the environmental program.) Ananichev did mention, by the way, that it was his office at SCST that was preparing the Soviet positions for the environmental discussion at a European Conference (CSCE).

Environment David


2. USA/UNA Exchange with Soviets on Legal Environmental Matters. Ananichev said the five papers drawn up under USA/UNA auspices had been received and given to the Institute for State and Law. (Aside from the Director of the Institute, Kolbasov and his aide Aksionov are following this particularly.) Ananichev expressed interest in continuing the exchange with USA/UNA. It is of interest that Ananichev expressed some doubt about how useful, at least initially, a government-to-government exchange would be in this area (part 11 of the Agreement). He said he had recommended to Fedorov (when, was not clear) to do nothing on this area at the outset, but to tackle it later.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2.

3. Bering Straits Park Proposal. David said he and Jackson mentioned the old proposal, which Bob Anderson had put to the Soviets last fall, for a bi-national park lying across the Bering Straits. (This proposal drew Soviet skepticism at first, but according to David, on the technical--as opposed to political--level the idea gained approval in Moscow. Mr. Anderson presented this idea at the White House, and it was discussed on an inter-agency basis, but a general statement by the Pentagon that it had problems with the idea resulted in the proposal being put in storage for awhile.) According to David, the response from Ananichev yesterday was that the Soviets were indeed interested. Ananichev went on to express annoyance that after the Soviets expressed readiness to pursue the idea, when Gordon MacDonald and his team came to Moscow to negotiate the Agreement Gordon said he knew nothing about the proposal. Ananichev concluded by saying if the project were revived, it could be recast to come specifically under a specific project in the Environmental Agreement, and might be an interesting proposal.

(Comment: David said Mr. Anderson might re-raise this proposal after the elections, and it is obvious that USA/UNA, as parent, wants to keep the idea alive. I told him that as far as I understood, the idea had not been rejected within the USG, but there were problems which needed study if the idea was to be revived. We may be hearing from this one again.)

CEQ:JPerry 

cc: Chairman Train

Mr. Busterud

Mr. Atkeson

Dr. Talbot

Mr. Alm

State: Mr. Herter

Mr. Mainland

Mr. Kerst

Embassy Moscow: Mr. Dubs

DOD: Col. Herbert A. Bell

NSC: Mr. Clift

OST: Mr. Neuriter

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE